

Florida Studies Weekly

State History

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4

Two Nations Collide: France vs. Spain

The night is silent, except for the waves hitting against the sides of the five great Spanish ships. "Hold your fire!" shouts the general, and then he adds in a whisper, "Pull us up bow to bow with those French dogs! We'll board her at the first light of dawn!"

The Spanish warship San Pelayo pulls quietly toward the four French ships, including the warship Trinity. French sailors rush about on the Trinity's deck, preparing for

battle. They fire a cannonball, but it whistles harmlessly above the Spanish attackers. Soon the two ships touch. Trumpets sound a salute.

The men on both ships are nervous as the Spanish captain asks, "Who are you, and where do you come from?"

"From France, with Gen. Jean Ribault," comes the reply. "We're taking supplies to our fort on the shore."

The Spanish captain's face is grim as he stands and says, "I am Gen. Pedro Menendez. This is the armada (navy fleet) of the king of Spain. He has sent us to this coast and country to burn and hang the Lutheran French who might be found here, and in the morning, I will board your ships!"

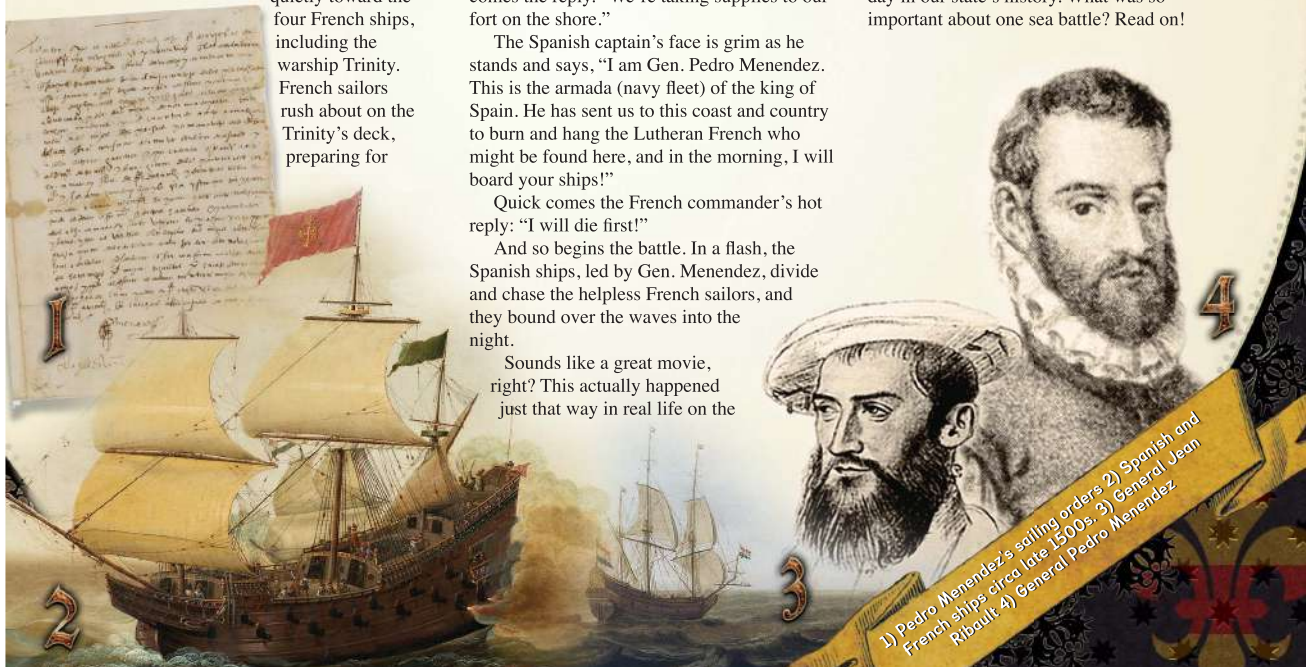
Quick comes the French commander's hot reply: "I will die first!"

And so begins the battle. In a flash, the Spanish ships, led by Gen. Menendez, divide and chase the helpless French sailors, and they bound over the waves into the night.

Sounds like a great movie, right? This actually happened just that way in real life on the

night of Sept. 4, 1565, right on the coast of our own great state.

Perhaps silent natives were watching from the trees on the shoreline as the land their fathers had lived on for thousands of years was fought over by the French and Spanish. Whatever the case, it was sure an important day in our state's history. What was so important about one sea battle? Read on!



Connections

Dilly 'Dalí'-ing in St. Petersburg



The Spanish haven't always had a warm welcome in Florida. Luckily, that was hundreds of years ago, and we've all worked out the whole "who-owns-Florida" problem.

One Spaniard has had a very warm welcome in Florida—the Spanish painter Salvador Dalí. St. Petersburg, Florida, is home to a new museum dedicated to Dalí. The old museum was a renovated

warehouse. The new one is bigger, more weatherproof and cooler looking. And it's got the largest collection of Dalí's work outside of Spain!

Salvador Dalí was a "surrealist" painter, which means that a lot of the things he painted didn't (or couldn't) really exist. Looking at his art might make you think about things in a new way.

Interested in seeing some of Dalí's

work? Your teacher can request a copy of "Get Surreal," a movie that will introduce you to Dalí's style. Or take a field trip to St. Petersburg! At the museum, you can join "Dillydally with Dalí," where you solve puzzles and play games. You might also enjoy "Breakfast with Dalí," a special tour of the museum followed by a yummy breakfast! It doesn't get better than that!

Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards: SS.4.A.1.1: Analyze primary and secondary resources to identify significant individuals and events throughout Florida history. SS.4.A.1.2: Synthesize information related to Florida history through print and electronic media. SS.4.A.3.1: Identify explorers who came to Florida and the motivations for their expeditions. SS.4.A.3.2: Describe causes and effects of European colonization on the Native American tribes of Florida. SS.4.A.3.3: Identify the significance of St. Augustine as the oldest permanent European settlement in the United States. SS.4.A.3.5: Identify the significance of Fort Mose as the first free African community in the United States. SS.4.A.3.6: Identify the effects of Spanish rule in Florida. SS.4.A.3.7: Identify nations (Spain, France, England) that controlled Florida before it became a United States territory. SS.4.A.4.2: Describe pioneer life in Florida. SS.4.A.9.1: Utilize timelines to sequence key events in Florida history. SS.4.C.2.3: Explain the importance of public service, voting, and volunteerism. SS.4.FL.1.1: People have many different types of jobs from which to choose. Identify different jobs requiring people to have different skills. SS.4.FL.1.2: People earn an income when they are hired by an employer to work at a job. Explain why employers are willing to pay people to do their work. SS.4.FL.1.3: Workers are paid for their labor in different ways such as wages, salaries or commission. Explain ways in which workers are paid. SS.4.G.1.1: Identify physical features of Florida. SS.4.G.1.2: Locate and label cultural features on a Florida map. SS.4.G.1.4: Interpret political and physical maps using map elements (title, compass rose, cardinal directions, intermediate directions, symbols, legend, scale, longitude, latitude).



North America's First European Colony

Fifty years before the Pilgrims of the Mayflower celebrated the first Thanksgiving dinner, the Spanish and French were already fighting over Florida.

The Founding of a City

On the important day of Sept. 4, 1565, three of Menendez's five Spanish vessels sailed south to chase down one of the escaping French galleons (ships). A storm came up and separated one of the Spanish ships from the others, causing the tables to turn. Three Spanish warships are enough to scare anybody, but there was just one lonely, little ship with a few cannons in an ocean full of really mad French sailors. The lost Spanish vessel (ship) decided to sail for the nearest harbor (which had already been called St. Augustine by earlier explorers).

There the sailors found a friendly American Indian village.

As quickly as they could, they dug trenches and made

rough barricades out of dirt and wood to surround the village. Soon they built a fort designed to protect themselves from the French. They were probably thinking more of saving their own lives than of making history, but that fort became the first camp of Gen. Menendez, and it later became the city of St. Augustine, the first European settlement in the United States.

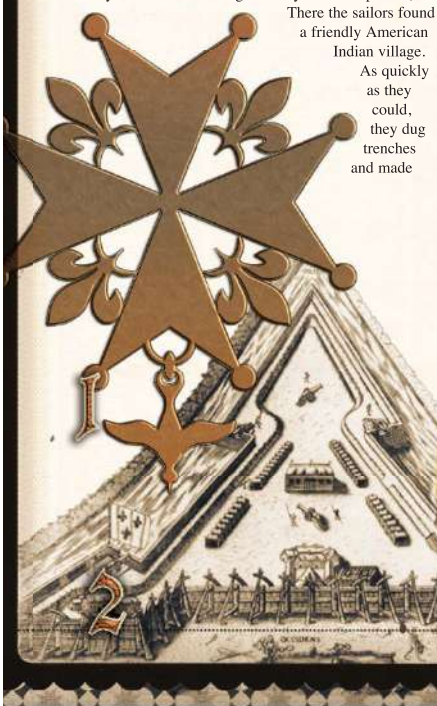
Bloody Beginnings

What would you do if you met someone from a different country? Would you try to learn all about him or her? Would you just stay away? Would you argue about who was better at football or checkers? Well, the day the Spanish met the French on the Florida coast was the beginning of days and days of bloody battles. The French had a fort called Fort Caroline that was just down the coast from St. Augustine. One night during a great storm, Menendez and his men attacked the fort, took it over and renamed it Fort San Mateo. They killed most of the French they found there, but Gen. Ribault, the French military leader, was not among them. He would have been there, but his boat had been held back by the storm. It didn't matter much though, because a few days later, the Spanish soldiers found and killed him and all his men.

Ribault the Frenchman and Menendez the Spaniard were both brave men. They were also both good generals. In this battle, Spain won. But what would have happened if Ribault and his French soldiers had won instead? How would Florida be different? Would Ribault's picture be hanging in as many places as Menendez's is today? It's something to think about!

The Search for Religious Freedom

Just like the Pilgrims who landed at Plymouth Rock, a group of French colonists (called Huguenots) came to America looking for a place where they could protect their freedom of religion. They were members of a Protestant church called the Lutherans, which was founded by Martin Luther, a former member of the Catholic Church. Their Lutheran beliefs made Catholics in France and Spain angry, so the Huguenots came to America to get away from those who opposed them. In 1562, two ships commanded by Capt. Jean Ribault set up a tiny colony in what is now South Carolina. The colony had all kinds of hardships (mainly food shortages), but they were treated kindly by the natives, and it looked like this would be their home forever. Unlike what happened later with the English Pilgrims, persecution followed the French colonists to the New World. The king of Spain



American Civics

Voting

One of the most important responsibilities Americans have is to vote in elections. Our government has major elections every two years. Voters choose who they think should serve as representatives, senators, governors and president. The candidate who receives the most votes gets to help run the country.

An important part of voting is getting to know the candidates. That means listening to speeches, reading news stories and learning how each candidate feels about important issues.

When you turn 18, make sure you register to vote. It's one of the most important ways you have to get involved as a U.S. citizen.

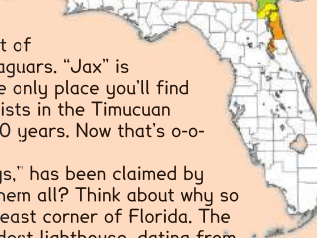
Duval, Nassau and St. Johns Counties

Duval County: Go, Jaguars! That's right—the county seat of Jacksonville is home to pro football's Jacksonville Jaguars. "Jax" is also home to the Mayo Clinic, but the cafeteria is the only place you'll find mayonnaise there! Dig this Duval nugget: Archaeologists in the Timucuan Preserve have found pottery dating back about 4,500 years. Now that's o-o-old!

Nassau County: Amelia Island, the "Island of Eight Flags," has been claimed by eight different groups in its history! Can you name them all? Think about why so many people would want a barrier island in the northeast corner of Florida. The county seat, Fernandina Beach, boasts the state's oldest lighthouse, dating from 1838.

St. Johns County: This county has something we don't find every day: St. Johns River is one of a few northern-flowing rivers in the Western Hemisphere. (The word hemisphere means "half of the Earth's surface.") The county seat, St. Augustine, is the oldest city settled by Europeans in the United States. There's an awesome old Spanish fort there, too—Castillo de San Marcos (Spanish for St. Mark's Castle). You can go into jail cells, touch cannons and see re-enactments of battles! Don't miss a visit to Fort Mose, the first free African settlement in America. Or take a ghost tour through all the haunted spots in the old town. Are you feeling brave?

Florida Counties



TIMELINE

Ponce de Leon arrives in Florida, 1513



Spanish explorers arrive in Florida, 1516-1560



French explorers arrive in Florida, 1523



Hernando de Soto arrives in Florida, 1539



Pedro Menendez arrives in Florida, 1565



considered Florida his, and he sent Menendez to drive the Huguenots out. Menendez became the first Spanish governor in the region.

French Vengeance

When word reached France about the way Menendez treated the French Huguenots, some Frenchmen were very angry and decided to go to the New World to teach the Spanish a lesson. Three years after the Spanish killed Ribault, a French trader named Dominic de Gourques convinced the Timucuan Indians to help him attack the Spanish at Fort Caroline. They destroyed the fort and killed many of the Spanish defenders. Menendez was in Europe at the time.

All this killing happened because Menendez and Ribault had different religious beliefs. (Religious means "deeply devoted to God and church.") During this time, religious wars were very common. Each side thought they were doing God's will.

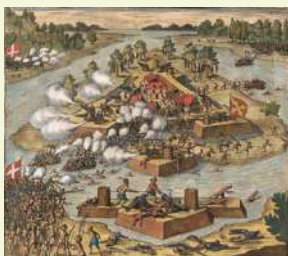
- 1) This cross was a symbol of French Huguenots.
- 2) Fort Caroline
- 3) French Huguenots (along with Jean Ribault pictured here) came to the New World looking for religious freedom. They wanted to find a place where they could practice their religion without persecution. They did not find that in Florida.
- 4) This is an etching of St. Augustine.
- 5) Pedro Menendez
- 6) Dominic de Gourques



Why did the Spanish and French fight over Florida?



The Spanish and French fought over Florida for much of the 1500s. Explorers from both nations knew the land was important. For years, soldiers from both sides struggled to control the land. Spanish soldiers killed the French at Fort Caroline. A short time later, French forces killed the Spanish soldiers who had taken the fort over.



Why were the two nations fighting over Florida? Would Florida be different today if Spain and France had agreed to cooperate? Write down your ideas and then share them with a classmate.

Salaries, Wages and Commission

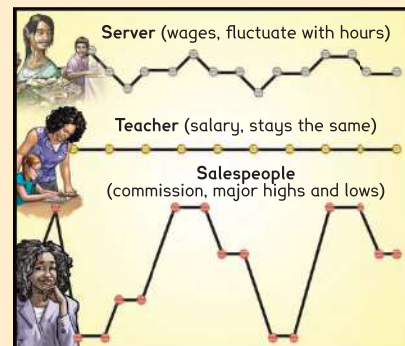
Financial Literacy

People earn an income when they are hired to do work at a job. Employers usually need helpers to make a business run. There are different ways that people can get paid for the work they do.

Some employees are paid wages for their work. Wages are paid by the hour. The more a person works, the more he or she is paid. Waiters, cashiers and construction workers are a few people who are paid in wages.

Teachers, computer programmers and nurses are some of the workers who are paid a salary. These workers are paid a set amount for their work that does not change from day to day.

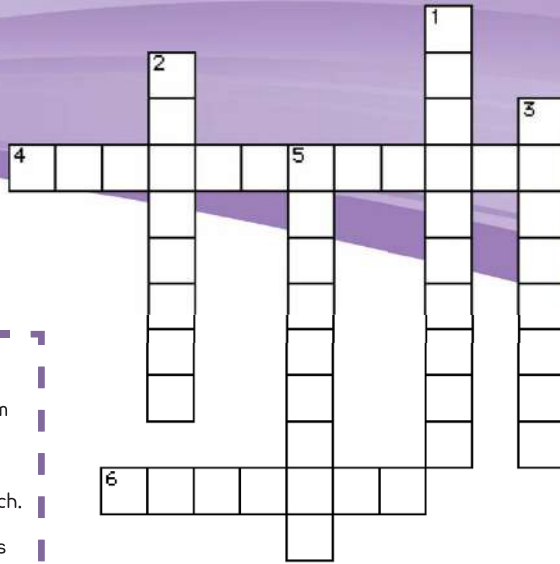
Salespeople are usually paid on commission. Whenever a salesperson makes a sale, he or she gets some of the money. The more they sell, the more they make!



Name _____



As you read this week's lesson, circle or highlight all proper nouns with any color pen or highlighter. This will help you find some of the crossword answers and get ready for this week's test.



ACROSS

- 4. name of the French fort near St. Augustine
- 6. the French leader who came to America for religious freedom

DOWN

- 1. half of the Earth's surface
- 2. The founder of this Protestant Church left the Catholic Church.
- 3. name of the first Spanish governor
- 5. deeply concerned with God and the practice of church beliefs

Hear r Sum Words 4 U 2 No!

Activity

Directions: Rewrite the title of this activity so that all of the words are spelled correctly.

_____ persecution _____

Now write some more sentences using the following words:

barricades _____ responsibility _____

argue _____ reply _____

opposed _____ hardship _____

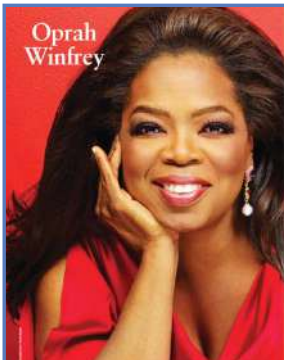
1. What was the name of the French fort attacked by the Spanish?
2. Why did the Spanish sailors build a fort around the village at St. Augustine?
3. Why did the French and Spanish start fighting?
4. Compare and contrast Nassau, St. Johns and Duval counties
5. What are some different ways that people can get paid doing work?

Think & Review

You met General Ribault and General Menendez in Florida about 500 years ago.

Let's Write

You decided to start your Spanish colony where you live today. You are in charge of the new colony. Before you write, imagine how things would be in Florida if you had been in charge. Now write to tell how things would have been in Florida if you had been in charge.



Oprah Winfrey

A force for good.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Pass It On.
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As you read this week's magazine, circle or highlight five words that are new to you. Write the words on a piece of paper. Try to figure out the meaning of the words by reading the other words and sentences around them. Write what you think the words mean and compare your definition to a dictionary definition. (LAFS.4.RI.2.4, LAFS.4.L.3.4)

Language Arts Connection

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